

award winners for 1995. Their contributions to the Gum Springs community have helped all of the residents of that community. Their steadfast commitment is another example of the strong volunteer spirit which so enriches our country.

MILDRED CHEEK BROWN
CELEBRATES HER 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JACK FIELDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 16, 1995

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, I want to take a moment today to recognize a very special woman—Mildred Cheek Brown of Brandywine, MD. Mrs. Brown celebrated her 80th birthday on November 15, and I know you and all of my colleagues join with me in sending her and her family our very warmest wishes of friendship on her birthday.

Four years ago, I had the opportunity to stand here on the floor of the House and recognize Mrs. Brown's husband, Horace F. "Buddy" Brown, on the occasion of his 80th birthday. At the time, I considered it a privilege to have the opportunity to recognize Mr. Brown—if only because he had the good sense to marry Mrs. Brown. I consider it just as great a privilege to bring Mrs. Brown's upcoming 80th birthday to the attention of my colleagues.

Mrs. Brown was born in Hillsborough, NC, a small town located near Durham, one of nine children of Thomas and Electa Cheek. In 1937, Mrs. Brown came to the Washington, DC, area seeking employment. She rented a room in a boarding house and enjoyed meeting many of her neighbors. One neighbor in particular—"Buddy" Brown, who maintained a room in a boarding house next door to the then Miss Cheek—enjoyed her company. After a whirlwind 2-month courtship, Miss Cheek made Mr. Brown a very happy man by agreeing to be his wife.

While many marriage counselors contend that long, happy marriages are the result of long courtships, Mr. And Mrs. Brown might disagree. On October 29, they celebrated their 58th wedding anniversary—proving once again that we should listen more closely to our hearts, and less to counselors.

Throughout most of their married life, Mrs. Brown worked as a homemaker—raising her three children, caring for her husband, and making some of the best vegetable soup, chicken and dumplings, and Pennsylvania Dutch faling ever to come out of a kitchen. In 1965, with her children grown, she went to work fulltime as a bookkeeper for Western Auto, a position she held until she retired in 1980.

For a portion of her life, Mrs. Brown suffered health problems. She survived three bouts of tuberculosis, which required two extended stays at Glen Dale Sanatorium in addition to one prolonged recovery period at her home. But as anyone who knows her knows, Mrs. Brown is a tender woman who can be tough when necessary—such as when confronting a threat to her health. In a battle between tuberculosis and Mrs. Brown, the disease didn't have a chance.

Since her retirement, Mrs. Brown has remained extremely active in her church, Im-

manuel United Methodist, where she has served as president of the United Methodist Women chapter, and on many church committees. She has also enjoyed spending time with her husband at their home in Brandywine, where they have lived for the past 25 years.

The Brown household is often the scene of many happy family gatherings at which several generations of family members join together. Those family members include Mrs. Brown's children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Expected to join Mrs. Brown for her 80th birthday and her children: Frank Brown of Greensboro, NC, and his wife, Sue; Vicki Peckham of Washington, DC, and her husband, Arnold Levine; and Robin Bridges of Churchton, MD.

Also expected are Mrs. Brown's grandchildren—Frank Spasoff and his wife Anne; Chris Brown; Vicky Hawks and her husband Brad; and Emily and Andrew Bridges—as well as her great-grandchildren—Nick and Drew Hawks and Sean Spasoff. Another great-grandson is due in January.

Mr. Speaker, in this age when commitment is not as common as it once was, the 58-year marriage of Mildred and "Buddy" Brown remind all of us of its enduring value. In this age when love for others is often regarded as less important than love of oneself, Mrs. Brown's legacy of caring for her husband, her children, her extended family and her neighbors inspires all of us. And in this age when many proclaim that America's religious tradition is dying, Mrs. Brown's long and distinguished service to her church and its members—particularly its less fortunate members—proves that Christian faith and values are still alive and well.

Mr. Speaker, please join with me in wishing Mrs. Mildred Cheek Brown of Brandywine, MD, a very happy 80th birthday and continued good health. And let us all wish her husband and her family many, many more kettles of Mrs. Brown's delicious vegetable soup.

FOUR WOMEN WHO MADE A
DIFFERENCE

HON. DAN SCHAEFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 16, 1995

Mr. SCHAEFER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize four women who have played a vital role in the operation of Fitzsimons Army Medical Center in Aurora, CO: Mrs. Lorenza Manresa, Col. Suiko Kumagai, Col. Rita Geis, and Sister Michael Mary Eagan.

Fitzsimons serves nearly one million beneficiaries in a 12-State area and is on the 1995 base closure list. This hospital's long history of care for our Nation's military personnel is exemplified in these four women, all of whom still live—and serve—in the community they served with such dedication. I salute them and offer here a brief description of each woman's selfless contributions.

MRS. LORENZA MANRESA

Mrs. Manresa was born in the Philippines, where she began her nursing career. During World War II, she was attending to patients in a Philippine hospital when the Japanese burst into her ward as part of their invasion of that country. After becoming an American citizen following the war, she served with compassion

as a nurse at Fitzsimons for over two decades.

COL. SUIKO KUMAGAI

Col. Kumagai, known to her friends as "Sue," is a Denver native whose long experience includes serving as head of the 901—C medical school at Fitzsimons. Fluent in Japanese, Col. Kumagai taught Japanese personnel English during the Korean war so that they could care for wounded Americans in Osaka.

COL. RITA GEIS

Upon her retirement from active duty during the Vietnam war, Col. Geis was the chief nurse at Fitzsimons, capping 33 years of service to this country's military personnel. Col. Geis is now the historian for the Retired Officers Association and pursues numerous charitable activities. She has been honored by the Denver Archbishop Stafford for her contributions to charity work in the local community.

SISTER MICHAEL MARY EAGAN

Sister Michael Mary has been an nun for 50 years and is celebrating her Golden Jubilee this year. Her experiences reflect a tireless record of service. She is in charge of program development for the Catholic Archdiocese of Denver and is responsible for the Colorado SHARE program, which now boasts of over 200 sites throughout the State. Sister Michael Mary was principal of Cathedral High School in Denver and was the first director of the Aurora Housing Authority. It was at her initiative that the Fletcher Gardens senior housing center was built. She served on the Lowry Air Force Base redevelopment board and plans on contributing her time and talents to the redevelopment of Fitzsimons.

TWO OF OUR MOST BELOVED
TREASURES

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 16, 1995

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to provide environmental relief to the Nation by saving two of our greatest national treasures: the Everglades and the Florida Bay. The Florida Everglades is a unique region that enjoys a broad area of sub-tropical freshwater wetlands, which nourish the tropical marine environment of coastal bays and estuaries. If you travel on the water between the Florida Bay and the Everglades, you will be overwhelmed by the blue-green color of the water. Wildlife has flourished in the Everglades and Florida Bay areas, allowing people to enjoy their unspoiled beauty and profit from its generosity. Unfortunately, the Everglades is the most threatened U.S. national park, and the Florida Bay's lush seagrass meadows are dying as a result of the polluted water dumped into the Everglades by sugar growers. Three acres of Everglades' wetlands die everyday. Clearly, it is time to restore the Everglades-Florida Bay ecosystem for the benefit of the whole Nation.

Let me be clear that the first step in ensuring that the Everglades continues to be one of the Nation's beautiful national parks should be to end the U.S. Sugar Program. If sugar growers were forced to compete in the open market, approximately 20 percent of artificially profitable Everglades agricultural area [EAA]

sugarcane production would cease. Thus, this acreage could be purchased and used to store water and reconnect Lake Okeechobee with the Everglades, which would be a major step in restoring the Everglades. We need to take other steps now, however, to protect the Everglades from further pollution and deterioration until we can end the Federal Sugar Program.

Thus, I have introduced a bill which assesses, for the next 5 years or until the Federal price support program for sugar growers is terminated, 2 cents per pound on raw cane sugar grown in the EAA. These funds will be deposited into an account known as the Everglades Agricultural Area Account, which will be used to make grants to the South Florida Water Management District so that it, in conjunction with the State of Florida, may acquire property in the Everglades to restore these national treasures. A 2-cent-per-pound assessment on raw sugar produced in the EAA would raise \$350 million over 5 years, which would help purchase land, halt the pollution of the Everglades, and assist in restoring water quality.

After thoroughly researching this pollution crisis in the Florida Everglades, the Corps of Engineers and the South Florida Water Management District have created a plan to save and restore the Everglades. Under this plan, 131,000 acres of land within the southern EAA must be purchased at a cost of \$355 million. The money raised by the 2-cent assessment will fund this plan and help save the Everglades.

Sugar growers in the Everglades area have been forced to take steps to improve water quality by implementing best management practices with respect to phosphorous discharge and agreeing to pay approximately \$25 an acre over the next 20 years, that will be used to help restore the water quality. The concessions made by the sugar growers under the Everglades Forever Act, however, cap the sugar growers' contribution and do not require them to make full reparation until 2010. That is simply too little too late to save the Everglades.

Sugar growers in the EAA have benefited from Federal and State subsidized water projects that drain water from the Everglades to make this land suitable for sugar production. These water projects have severely injured the Everglades, and therefore it is only right that sugar growers be responsible for the cleanup of the Everglades and pay their fair share for the purchase of these lands.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to act now to protect these national treasures by supporting my bill to restore the Everglades to the pristine condition so that it can be enjoyed for generations to come. My bill is fair to the sugar growers who have reaped tremendous benefits from the sugar program at the cost of two of our most beloved but most neglected national treasures: the Everglades and the Florida Bay. It is time for the sugar growers to work with the rest of the Nation to preserve these treasures.

MANDATORY FEDERAL PRISON DRUG TREATMENT ACT OF 1995

HON. FRED HEINEMAN

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 16, 1995

Mr. HEINEMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to introduce the Mandatory Federal Prison Drug Treatment Act of 1995. This legislation will restore equity in the way the Federal Bureau of Prisons [BOP] administers its drug treatment program so that drug addicts will stop being rewarded for being addicts.

Instead of rewarding prison drug addicts at the expense of other inmates, the Mandatory Federal Prison Drug Treatment Act provides a proper incentive to recovering addicts to get treatment.

The 1994 crime bill changed the way that the BOP administers its substance abuse treatment programs to allow drug abusers to get out of prison a year earlier than their clean counterparts. For example, two Federal prisoners who are convicted of the same non-violent offense can receive substantially different sentences.

This inequity is not based on past criminal history. Rather, the prisoners' unequal sentences are the result of one inmate's drug addiction. Unfortunately, the BOP can reward a drug addict by taking a year off his sentence after completion of a drug treatment program. My 38 years in law enforcement tells me that this is simply wrong.

The Mandatory Federal Prison Drug Treatment Act ties successful completion of the drug treatment program to good time. The Sentencing Reform Act of 1984 abolished parole in Federal prisons. Thus, inmates serve the entirety of their sentences, reduced only by credit for satisfactory behavior—good time. This bill simply requires that drug addicts complete the drug treatment program before they can receive any good time credits which they have accrued.

At present there are 99,000 prisoners in custody and control of the BOP. There are over 26,000 prisoners who need treatment.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2020, TREASURY, POSTAL SERVICE, AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT AP- PROPRIATIONS ACT, 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. RICK LAZIO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 1995

Mr. LAZIO of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2020, the FY 1996 Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government Appropriations Act. I would like to take this opportunity to commend the conferees on this bill for their efforts, particularly the chairman of the Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government Appropriations Subcommittee, the gentleman from Iowa [Mr. LIGHTFOOT].

The conference agreement contains \$189 million in funding to complete construction of a vitally important project in my district on Long Island, the Central Islip Federal Courthouse. I was pleased the conferees quickly reached agreement on full funding for completion of the

courthouse and deeply appreciate the willingness of Chairman LIGHTFOOT and the other conferees in working with me to meet this essential need.

First announced by the General Services Administration [GSA] in 1991, the Central Islip Courthouse was designed to solve the problems of the only space emergency in our Nation declared by the U.S. Judicial Conference. That space emergency for the eastern district of New York, was first declared in 1989 and renewed in 1992. These declarations are unique in that these are the only times the Judicial Conference has ever taken such an action. The Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts has just designated the Central Islip Federal Courthouse as its No. 1 construction priority.

Without the completion of the Central Islip Federal Courthouse, eastern Long Island's 2.5 million people will continue to have to tolerate what has been described as a security nightmare. Federal judges in New York's eastern judicial district are facing the heaviest case load in the district's history while enduring dangerous, inefficient, costly temporary facilities scattered in five rented locations.

Unlike some other Federal courthouse projects, the cost per square foot of the Central Islip Courthouse is below the GSA average for similar projects. The courthouse will be cost effective, saving taxpayers \$4 million a year now paid for rent.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill and to continue to support the timely completion of the Central Islip Federal Courthouse.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN TUR- NER, CHAIR, AMERICAN COUNCIL OF LIFE INSURERS

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 16, 1995

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the efforts of an outstanding Minnesotan, John Turner, chief executive of Reliastar Financial and the new chair of the American Council of Life Insurers [ACLI].

In his role as chair of the ACLI, John Turner will continue to work to improve the image of the life insurance industry by encouraging the Nation's life insurers to adopt a code of ethical market conduct.

By imposing strict standards on itself, in addition to those State insurance regulators used to police the industry, life insurers will take strides in improving their standing with the public and their customers.

While scandals have damaged the reputation of some life insurance companies and agents in recent years, with John Turner at the helm, Reliastar's image has remained unblemished. In addition, Turner helped the company through some tough financial times in the early 1990's, and its financial position is solid.

I wish John Turner the best as he works with life insurers across the country in the coming months, urging them to embrace higher standards and increased accountability.

If his track record is any indication, John Turner's latest endeavor is sure to be a resounding success.